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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/527,639	03/14/2005	Hiroyoshi Asakawa	UNIU86.001APC	9337

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EXAMINER	
EMERSON, SHEROD J	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2169	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/527,639	ASAKAWA, HIROYOSHI	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Sherod J. Emerson	2169	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *14 March 2005*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-19* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *14 March 2005* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *See Continuation Sheet*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 3). Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08), Paper No(s)/Mail Date :01/03/2006, 10/31/2005, 08/18/2005, 06/09/2005, 03/14/2005 .

Detailed Action

Claims 1-19 are pending.

Information Disclosure Statement

1. The Applicants' Information Disclosure Statements, filed January, 03, 2006, October, 31, 2005, August, 18, 2005, June, 09, 2005 and March, 14, 2005 has been received and entered into the record. Since the Information Disclosure Statements comply with the provisions of MPEP § 609, the references cited therein have been considered by the examiner. See attached form PTO-1449.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2, 3, and 7 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Amidhozour et al. hereinafter Amidhozour (US PG Pub 20020052803) in further view of Lewis, (US PG Pub 20030105641).

4. Regarding claim 1, Amidhozour discloses,

A nozzle information retrieval system comprising a server unit having a database for retrieving nozzle information (a database for retrieving information about a product, of which a nozzle is, is disclosed, which can be modified to search for nozzles or any types of parts, by replacing the rugs data and pictures with nozzles and their accompanying information, [0077]) and a client unit accessible to the server unit through a communication network (a client computer is disclosed, Fig. 3, system 39), characterized by a configuration in which the nozzle specification information is registered with the corresponding nozzle model number information in the database (association of specification information with a UPC-LIKE CODE, which serves the same purpose as a part model number is disclosed, Fig. 5, [0073]), and the nozzle information is input from the display screen of the client unit and transmitted to the server unit (a form is filled that specifies the rugs parameters, [0088], fig. 9B), so that the server unit searches the database for and extracts the nozzle model number information corresponding to the input nozzle specification information (a match is made from the information given on the filled form to a database item, which correlates to attributes of the UPC-LIKE CODE system, and thereby serves the function of extraction listed here, [0088]),

Amidhozour does not disclose,

the extracted nozzle model number information is sent back to the client unit and the retrieved nozzle model number information is displayed on the display screen of the client unit.

However, Lewis discloses, the matched UPC-LIKE CODE is displayed on a screen [0031].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Lewis and Amidhozour in an effort to allow a consumer a method of validating their purchase in the event of a mistake.

5. Regarding claim 2, Amidhozour discloses,

A server unit making up the nozzle information retrieval system according to claim 1, characterized by comprising: a database in which the nozzle specification information is registered with the corresponding nozzle model number information (specific values are associated with UPC-LIKE CODE numbers, Fig. 5, [0073]);

Amidhozour does not disclose,

a database retrieval unit for retrieving the nozzle model number information registered in the database based on the nozzle specification information transmitted from the client unit and a model number data processor for transmitting the retrieved nozzle model number information to the client unit (a main computer system is used to transmit upc-like code data to a computing unit 182 [0031]).

However, Lewis discloses,

Retrieval of UPC-LIKE CODE information based on specifications of validation, which reads information from a paper ticket or computing (handheld in this case) device [0031] and a main computer system is used to transmit upc-like code data to a computing unit 182 ([0031]) .

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Lewis and Amidhozour in an effort to be able to retrieve a compact easily interchangeable method of communicating a products attributes as this is a common method used to label products efficiently.

6. Regarding claim 3, Lewis discloses,

A server unit according to claim 2, characterized by a configuration in which catalog image data contained in the nozzle model number information transmitted to the client unit which corresponds to the nozzle model number information selected by the client unit is retrieved by the database retrieval unit, and the retrieved catalog image data is displayed on the client unit (a part image is displayed on a screen in response to a UPC-LIKE CODE being input, the UPC-LIKE CODE is used as a key to search an index as in [0090], and images are returned from searches [0099]).

7. Regarding claim 7, Lewis discloses,

A server unit according to claim 1, characterized in that in the case where the nozzle model number information corresponding to the nozzle specification information cannot be retrieved, a message indicating whether or not to place an order for a special type of nozzle is displayed on the display screen of the

client unit (in the event that a carpet cannot be retrieved, the ability to have a custom rug manufactured according to the image is disclosed, [0095]).

8. Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis and Amidhozour and further in view of Perkowski (US Patent 5918214).

9. Regarding claim 19, Amidhozour discloses,

A nozzle information retrieval system comprising: a server unit connected to a database storing nozzle model number information corresponding to nozzle specification information (a database for retrieving information about a product, of which a nozzle is, is disclosed, which can be modified to search for nozzles or any types of parts, by replacing the rugs data and pictures with nozzles and their accompanying information, [0077]); and a client unit accessible to the server unit through a communication network (a client computer is disclosed, Fig. 3, system 39), said client unit provided with a display screen from which the nozzle specification information is inputted and transmitted to the server unit (a form is filled that specifies the rugs parameters, [0088], fig. 9B), wherein the server unit searches the database and extracts the nozzle model number information corresponding to the transmitted nozzle specification information (association of specification information with a UPC-LIKE CODE, which serves the same purpose as a part model number is disclosed, Fig. 5, [0073]) said server unit allowing the client unit to download a nozzle layout design program (a carpet design program that can interact with a server that houses matching images as described in [0077] to place orders is disclosed, the user, through their computers 37 or 38, being enabled to

download matching carpets, [0078],), wherein a nozzle layout is designed on the display screen of the client unit based on a simulation result obtained from the simulation program. (preparation of a carpet using the carpet design program [0095]).

Amidhozour does not disclose,

the extracted nozzle model number information is sent back to the client unit and the retrieved nozzle model number information is displayed on the display screen of the client unit

However, Lewis discloses, the matched UPC-LIKE CODE is displayed on a screen [0031].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Lewis and Amidhozour in an effort to allow a consumer a method of validating their purchase in the event of a mistake.

Lewis nor Amidhoaour discloses, said server unit comprising a simulation program to display images of performance of a nozzle in use corresponding to the nozzle model number information on the display screen of the client unit,

However, Perkowski discloses, a product simulation in response to a search for a product via a universal product/search number, which is synonymous with the functionality of a model number, is disclosed, (column 14, lines 34-47).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour and Perkowski in order to widen the ability of the a retailer interested in using the product to display to customers the functionality of a product.

10. Claims 4, 11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis and Amidhozour as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of and Perkowski (US Patent 5918214).

11. Regarding claim 4, Amidhozour and Lewis do not disclose,

A server unit according to claim 2, characterized in that a simulation program is stored to visually display the spray characteristic of the nozzle corresponding to the nozzle model number information on the display screen of the client unit

However, Perkowski discloses, a product simulation in response to a search for a product via a universal product/search number, which is synonymous with the functionality of a model number, is disclosed, (column 14, lines 34-47).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour and Perkowski in order to widen the ability of the a retailer interested in using the product to display to customers the functionality of a product.

12. Regarding claim 11, Amidhozour and Lewis does not disclose,

A server unit according to claim 3, characterized in that a simulation program is stored to visually display the spray characteristic of the nozzle corresponding to the nozzle model number information on the display screen of the client unit.

However, Perkowski discloses, a product simulation in response to a search for a product via a universal product/search number, which is synonymous with the functionality of a model number, is disclosed, (column 14, lines 34-47).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski and Lewis in order to widen the ability of the a retailer interested in using the product to display to customers the functionality of a product.

13. Regarding claim 12, Amidhozour and Lewis do not disclose,

A server unit according to claim 1, characterized by a configuration in which the simulation program causes a virtual laboratory to be displayed on the display screen of the client unit, the nozzle is mounted on a measuring

instrument or a tester selected on the screen, and the test result is visually displayed.

This claim is rejected for the same reason as claim 4 above.

14. Claims 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lewis and Amidozour and Perkowski as applied to claim 2 and 4 above, and further in view of Kjallstrom (US PG Pub 20020010655) and Zverev et al. hereinafter Zverev (US Pg Pub 20020194091).

15. Regarding claim 5, Kjallstrom discloses,

A server unit according to claim 4, characterized by a configuration in which the simulation program causes a virtual laboratory (a virtual showroom is disclosed which by the similarity of function, is considered analogous to a virtual laboratory [0035]) to be displayed on the display screen of the client unit (this is displayed on a screen [0034]),

Kjallstrom does not disclose, a nozzle mounted on a measuring instrument or a tester selected on the screen, and the test result visually displayed.

However, Zverev discloses,

Testing of semiconductors using a simulation process, the results of which is displayed in a browser, the simulation environment itself being the "tester" or "measuring instrument" providing results ([0008]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Zverev, Kjallstrom, Amidhozour and Perkowski in order to create a system that will lower cost by lowering returns of products purchased since the invention of Zverev is geared towards the purpose of saving money.

16. Regarding claim 6, Kjallstrom discloses,

A server unit according to claim 4, characterized by a configuration in which the sound of fluid spray from the nozzle can be output according to the simulation program (sound is included as a link to a behavior, [0043]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the teachings of Kjallstrom, Amidhozour and Perkowski in order to create a system that will output a sound simulation in order to further accentuate the features of the model to provide a more realistic simulation.

17. Regarding claim 8, Amidhozour discloses,

A server unit according to claim 4, characterized by a configuration in

which a nozzle layout design program is stored in a manner ready to be downloaded (a carpet design program that can interact with a server that houses matching images as described in [0077] to place orders is disclosed, the user, through their computers 37 or 38, being enabled to download matching carpets, [0078]),
and based on the simulation result obtained according to the simulation program in the client unit, the nozzle layout design drawing can be automatically prepared using the nozzle layout design program (preparation of a carpet using the carpet design program [0095]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis, Kjallstrom and Zverev when it is desirable to allow a user to efficiently communicate, via a simulation device, to a retailer desired features of a product for purchase.

18. Regarding claim 9, Amidhozour discloses,
A server unit according to claim 8, characterized in that the nozzle layout design program is so configured that drawing data of the nozzle layout design drawing can be fetched into the CAD installed in the client unit (usage of computer aided design to design a custom rug, [0095], Fig. 10).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis, Kjallstrom and Zverev allow a customer to express custom qualities of a desired product to a retailer.

19. Regarding claim 10, Kjallstrom discloses,

A server unit according to claim 8, characterized by a configuration in which a nozzle purchase specification file is stored in a manner ready to be downloaded (a procurement system that allows emailing to a sales associate for purchase of a product, which indicates that a file is used in the process, that is subsequently downloaded by the sales associate via email [0031]), and the nozzle layout design drawing can be attached to the nozzle purchase specification on the display screen of the client unit system as described in [0039]-[0043] is connected to an online procurement system as mentioned in [0044]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis, Kjallstrom and Zverev to allow for simplified access to both the design of a product and billing information for quick relation of data.

20. Regarding claim 13, Amidhozour, Perkowski and Lewis do not disclose,

A server unit according to claim 11, characterized by a configuration in which the sound of fluid spray from the nozzle can be output according to the simulation program.

However, Kjallstrom discloses, sound included as a link to a behavior, [0043]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill In the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis and Kjallstrom to produce a system that as stated in [0036] of Kjallstrom, to improve procurement connectivity and obtaining increased procurement functionality by providing a process for interactively displaying components and products for sale.

21. Regarding claim 14, Amidhozour discloses,

A server unit according to claim 5, characterized by a configuration in which a nozzle layout design program is stored in a manner ready to be downloaded (a carpet design program that can interact with a server that houses matching images as described in [0077] to place orders is disclosed, the user, through their computers 37 or 38, being enabled to download matching carpets, [0078]),

and based on the simulation result obtained according to the simulation program in the client unit, the nozzle layout design drawing can be automatically prepared using the nozzle layout design program (preparation of a carpet using the carpet design program [0095]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis, Kjallstrom and Zverev when it is desirable to allow a user to efficiently communicate, via a simulation device, to a retailer desired features of a product for purchase.

22. Regarding claim 15, Amidhozour discloses,

A server unit according to claim 6, characterized by a configuration in which a nozzle layout design program is stored in a manner ready to be downloaded (a carpet design program that can interact with a server that houses matching images as described in [0077] to place orders is disclosed, the user, through their computers 37 or 38, being enabled to download matching carpets, [0078]),
and based on the simulation result obtained according to the simulation program in the client unit, the nozzle layout design drawing can be automatically prepared using the nozzle layout design program (preparation of a carpet using the carpet design program [0095]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis, Kjallstrom and Zverev when it is desirable to allow a user to efficiently communicate, via a simulation device, to a retailer desired features of a product for purchase.

23. Regarding claim 16, Amidhozour discloses,

A server unit according to claim 9, characterized by a configuration in which a nozzle layout design program is stored in a manner ready to be

downloaded (a carpet design program that can interact with a server that houses matching images as described in [0077] to place orders is disclosed, the user, through their computers 37 or 38, being enabled to download matching carpets, [0078]),
and based on the simulation result obtained according to the simulation program in the client unit, the nozzle layout design drawing can be automatically prepared using the nozzle layout design program (preparation of a carpet using the carpet design program [0095]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis, Kjallstrom and Zverev when it is desirable to allow a user to efficiently communicate, via a simulation device, to a retailer desired features of a product for purchase.

24. Regarding claim 17, Amidhozour discloses,

A server unit according to claim 14, characterized by a configuration in
which a nozzle layout design program is stored in a manner ready to be
downloaded (a carpet design program that can interact with a server that houses matching images as described in [0077] to place orders is disclosed, the user, through their computers 37 or 38, being enabled to download matching carpets, [0078]),
and based on the simulation result obtained according to the simulation program in the client unit, the nozzle layout design drawing can be automatically prepared using the nozzle layout design program (preparation of a carpet using the carpet design program [0095]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis, Kjallstrom and Zverev when it is desirable to allow a user to efficiently communicate, via a simulation device, to a retailer desired features of a product for purchase.

25. Regarding claim 18, Amidhozour discloses,

A server unit according to claim 15, characterized by a configuration in

which a nozzle layout design program is stored in a manner ready to be

downloaded (a carpet design program that can interact with a server that houses matching images as described in [0077] to place orders is disclosed, the user, through their computers 37 or 38, being enabled to download matching carpets, [0078]),

and based on the simulation result obtained according to the simulation program in the client unit, the nozzle layout design drawing can be automatically prepared using the nozzle layout design program (preparation of a carpet using the carpet design program [0095]).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Amidhozour, Perkowski, Lewis, Kjallstrom and Zverev when it is desirable to allow a user to efficiently communicate, via a simulation device, to a retailer desired features of a product for purchase.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sherod J. Emerson whose telephone number is 5712701914. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00AM - 5:00PM Alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Christian Chace can be reached on 5712724190. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SJE
01/16/2008

ART UNIT 2169

CHRISTIAN CHACE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

18 January 2008